The inviting sweet sent of the bursting buds of wisteria blossoms!

Wisteria at Takehana Betsuin (Branch Temple)

Audience area around the trunk (diameter): 2.8m / Root circumference: 2.3m / Branch spread East and West: 33m / Branch spread North and South: 15m / Tree height (assisted by shelf): 2.4m / Age of the tree: more than 300 years.

It is a tree with vines of luminous pink leaves. The vines expand extremely long by twining clockwise round available supports. The leaves, alternate and obovate, compound of purple flower bunches, bloom in late spring or early summer. The flowers are produced in oblong pods and are about 20cm in length. Because the vine is so strong, ancient people used it to bind things or to weave baskets.

Because the wisteria is over 300 years old, it is the only thing in Hoshina city designated as a "Prefecture natural treasure". The flowers, butterfly shaped dusters of four light purple petals, open at the end of April. The charming, long flower arrangement lets us feel that spring has arrived. A lot of writers and artists have been visiting "Wisteria in Takehana Betsuin" for a long time.

Be sure to visit in April and May!
Modern art and technology from the Edo period!

The floats of Takehana Festival

Takehana Festival
Extravagant floats parade through the streets of Takehana after performing a dance of worship at Hakken Shrine during this Takehana Festival held every year on May 03. This is a beautiful festival as each float is set on display in gorgeous colors.

It’s mechanical!

Myo Machi Float
Features hand dances performed by children. The main part of the float was made in 1897.

Onishi-Cho Float
Features mechanical/clockwork skills. The year of construction is uncertain, however, it was repaired in 1949 and again in 1988.

Kaminabe-Cho Float
Features a snuffed oil of the kind of Good Fortune. The float was purchased from Kaminabe, Ogaki in 1926.

Shimonabey-Cho Float
Features mechanical/clockwork skills. The float was made during the Tempo period (1830-1844) and was repaired in each year of the Meiji and Taisho periods. (1898-1925)

Kawa Machi Float
Features hand dances performed by children. The float was constructed during the Houraisan period (1703-1704).

Shimoshiro-Cho Float
Features mechanical/clockwork skills. The float was built in 1790 and was repaired in 1983.

Kamishiro-Cho Float
Features mechanical/clockwork skills. The float was built in 1790 and was repaired in 1848.

Fukue-Cho Float
Features mechanical/clockwork skills. The float was built sometimes during the Tenshui period (1673-1707).

Shin Machi Float
Features hand dances performed by children. This original float was destroyed in an earthquake, however, the present float was constructed in 1985.

Naka Machi Float
Features mechanical/clockwork skills and hand dances performed by children. The original float was reconstructed in 1970.

Hon Machi Float
Features hand dances. The original float was destroyed in an earthquake. The current float was constructed in 1970.

Kan Machi Float
Features mechanical/clockwork skills. The original float was destroyed in the Taisho earthquake, however, the present float was reconstructed in 1899.

Ima Machi Float
Features hand dances performed by children. The float was built sometimes in the middle of the Taisho period (1912-1925) after Ima Machi became an independent town at the end of the Edo period.

Hakken Shrine
The three-ninomato (fan) floats from Moscow as the escorted deity. The era in which the shrine was constructed unknown. However, it is said that it was transported to the current location in the 9th year of the Taisho period (1920) to rescue it from the flooding damage it was facing at Takehana Castle. Takehana Festival is started at an event of the festival of Hakken Shrine.

The inviting sound of a Japanese orchestra.
The Lotus flower was even admired by the people of the Jomon period!

Origin of Oga Lotus

The Late botanist Ichiro Oga discovered three lotus seeds in the Jomon Era excavation site in Oga City in 1951. The seeds were recognized as the oldest lotus seeds in the world. One of seeds would blossom the following year, and gain attention as a lotus from 2000 years ago.

Because Hashima City has been home of the lotus root since the Edo period (1603–1868), Oga City gave Hashima the Oga Lotus to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the municipal organization and the 15th anniversary of the establishment of Tokkado Shinkansen Gifu-Hashima Station, in 1978. Since then, Hashima has proliferated Oga Lotus and the area devoted to the Oga Lotus cultivation has increased to about 5,100m². Please enjoy the pink-colored flower, that the people of the Jomon period might have seen, to feel the romance and dream of ancient times!
**Map**

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**Hashima Camellia and Cherry Blossom Festival**
The Camellia and Cherry Blossom Festival is held at Shinrin No.5 Park, Hashima Park, and the Hashima Cultural Center every year from the end of March until the beginning of April.

**Shimin no Mori Hashima Park**
The park, planted with more than forty thousand plants, is forever changing with the seasons. There is a Muroo Garden, a Holly Garden, a Nana Garden and a Camellia Garden, along with an onkei, large, grassy area which is always alive with families and young people alike.

**Hashima Cultural Center**
Established as Hashima City’s center for culture, arts and education. The center displays current and past issues of the art equipment and facilities, and exhibits at public musical and stage performances. Many various of educational activities are also held at the center.

**Hashima Public Library**
The library boasts a collection of around 20,000 books and has a wide range of various books on display. The additional facilities such as the audio/visual corner and story corner where children can read picture books may be used freely.

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**The pair who can only meet once a year according to the Tanabata legend**

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**Mino Takehana Tanabata Festival**
This festival is held in late July to early August and brings the area to life. This festival, held in late October, is a night and evening event held to successes the city's feature variety of events and activities such as the carp fish float competition.

**Mino Takehana Catfish Festival (Namazu Matsuri)**
“Tanabata Festival” is held in late October. This is a night and evening event held to successes the city's feature variety of events and activities such as the carp fish float competition.

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**Old Main Shopping Street**
The old Takehana shopping street is located in central Takehana and contains the Mino Takehana Festival, Takehana Festival, Takehana Festival, and the Msuta Festival. It seems like it's always bustling.

**Gobozeko Square**
Located at the center of the old Takehana shopping street, the garden has won the Minister of Construction Prize in the 10th Green Design Competition. It is an area used for events, meetings or just for relaxing among greenery.
Hashima Flower and Festival Calendar

Hashima Camellia and Cherry Blossom Festival  ①middle of March — beginning of April
Mino Takehana Wisteria Festival  ②end of April — beginning of May
Mino Takehana Festival  ③2nd and 3rd May (3rd May is the float procession)
Daidai Festival  ④1st and 15th July
Oga Lotus (Oga Hasu) Festival  ⑤1st July — 31st July
Mino Takehana Tanabata Festival  ⑥end of July
Hashima City/Ichinomiya City Fireworks Display  ⑦14th August
Enku Festival  ⑧18th August
Hirakata Lion Festival  ⑨The 2nd Sunday in October
Mino Takehana Catfish Festival (Namazu Matsuri)  ⑩end of October
Chrysanthemum Flower Show  ⑪beginning of November

The separation of the three rivers
In his long period, the government appointed the Dutch engineer, Johannes de Nyss in order to prevent the flood. De Nyss designed a complete separation of the 3 rivers, changed the winding river bend and strengthened the embankments along the rivers. The construction began in 1871 and continued for 25 years. Construction was completed in 1904. Following the completion of this project, the people living in the valley were finally relieved of the threat of floods.

Samui of Saturna Graves (Sekou Temple)
The graves of those of the Samui of Saturna, who died while working on the flood prevention work of the rivers during the Edo period, are located here. It is said that they were sumo wrestlers who mounted their deaths and undertook their burial themselves.

Ishida Monkey Tails
You can see two monkey tails where the bank jut out from the river bed of the Kiso River. These monkey tails were formed as a result of the extreme flood during the Edo period (1758) by the Samui of Saturna.

Nakano Ferryboat
The stone light was built by volunteers from Shiojiri city during the later days of the Edo period. “All right light” is carved into the left hand side.
Instead of the Mona Lisa’s smile, Japan had Enku sculptures’ smiles!

In 1632, Enku appeared in what is present day Hashima City’s Kamakacho. It is said that he became a priest because he was holding a memorial service for his mother who died in a flood. Yearning after Gyoki’s (Buddhist priest) virtue, he went out on pilgrimage and traveled all over the country on foot. During his pilgrimage, he prayed for people’s happiness and produced 120,000 sculptures.
This is the road that Ieyasu Tokugawa walked while savouring the pleasure of his victory in the Sekigahara battle.
An old legend from their Grandfather

Even today we haven’t forgotten our gratitude to the Samurai of Satsuma.

During the Edo period (1603–1867), the damage of floods was unimportant in this area. The Shogunate ordered the Satsuma Family of modern day Kagoshima Prefecture, who were unfamiliar with land and flood repair work, to carry out the construction. Chief Notary Yaku Harita was responsible for the construction operation. The construction was a large and difficult operation. Work began in 1754 and took one year and three months to complete. The construction and repair work incurred costs of 400,000 yen (approximately 103,000 yen) and 46 people died as a result of accidents or the accidents sustained while carrying out their work. In May 1755, Yaku Harita fell responsible for the Satsuma Family for the great expense and the loss of so many lives and so he took his own life.

Since the flood construction and repair work was completed the damage from floods was significantly reduced. The people from the Satsuma Family who worked on the repairs became known as the Satsuma of Satsuma and in 1938 were enshrined at Osaki Shrine in Sendai Mihara-hara, Kagoshima. Some of the graves of the Satsuma of Satsuma can also be found at Takahama District, Sekisui Temple and Shinn Temple within Hitokawa City, many people still visit to pray their respects. Because of this modern cultural exchange still continues with Kagoshima Prefecture today.

Hirakata Lion Dance - Athletic training for the village folk?

Every year on a certain day in October you can hear lively festival music coming from the suicide of Hitachino Shrine in Fuku-Chi, Hachino City. It’s the Hirakata Lion Dance, which has been held in this area since old times.

The Hirakata Lion has its origin in the beginning of the Edo period with the shouts from the 6th Top of Ehime Temple to the village people. But it was later that the Kabuki Lion Dance was adopted.

The traditional Kagura Court dance and music from the Kabuki has been passed down in its original form and is a designated intangible folk cultural asset of Ehime Prefecture.

The dance is divided into 7 performances: “Shinto Ha Dance”, “Yuan Dance”, “Tenka Hirakata Lion”, “Tower Dance”, “Tengu Dance and Gorin Mochi”, “Family Harmony Dance” and “Fox Haunt”. The most popular of which is the Gorin Mochi, which is the dance that is performed for the dancing, so train and build up their strength for this performance. You will be массирован если вы able to complete the circuit so it also becomes a competition of strength.

The purpose of Hirakata Lion itself is to pray for and give thanks for world peace, fertile crops and a safe home but in reality it seems there is another purpose too: the competition of strength among young people.

In Hashima City, there are many places to play and scenic viewpoints not yet introduced.

Wonderful impressions, discoveries and meetings must be waiting for your visiting!

Jet Skiing and Windsurfing

Kosagawa is a Mecca for jet skiing and windsurfing. Let’s make a big splash, and enjoy the lovely thrill and speed. It’s crowded with many young companies.

The Big Takahama Buddha is also known as the Sakichi Buddha. Extremely devout Sakichi Nagata built the Big Buddha in Edo (modern day Tokyo) in order to worship Amida Buddha. But according to legend, there is another Sakichi Buddha other than this one we worship today. The completed Big Buddha statue was transported from Edo (modern day Tokyo) by boat but when they got to sea at the site of Emony in Akita Prefecture, a ravened black spot, the boat was struck by strong winds and heavy rain and sank. The sailors tried to help but in spite of this the Big Buddha also fell to the bottom of the ocean.

When Sakichi heard this he said: “I have heard that many boats have disappeared at the site of Emony black spot. I am very pleased that my Big Buddha statue has sunk in those waves. This is a great blessing to the sailors from Amida Buddha. There is no need to apologize.” And inside he praised the sailors when they returned.

He then constructed another Big Buddha Statue, which became the Sakichi Buddha we have today.

So it’s true, there actually is another Sakichi Buddha which continues to quietly protect those who go to sea from the bottom of the ocean in Shonai, Akita Prefecture.

Memorial statue of Yaku Harita (Kagoshima City)

Kind hearted Nagata who was loved by everyone!

Sakichi Nagata was a great man who was famous as Shintoku Nemotoji and appears in the text books compiled by the Ministry of Education. He is the saint of Mino who was born to a small farming family in Takahama in 1791. During his youth he entered an apprenticeship during which he studied and worked with his whole heart. After completing his apprenticeship he ran a cotton business while caring for his parents. He lead to respect and worship. Amida Buddha and contributed extensively to the public wealth. Sakichi Nagata surmised this difficult life through the mortal depths of his own faith.

Rain Dance (Nagara Shirime Shrine)

This temple was moved from Owari and reconstructed here in 1873. The temple was used as a clan school for Edo period. Built with Japanese siloka tree (type of elm) and gable roof, a sloped roof with Chinese-style gables. It is designated as a prefectural cultural asset because of the rarity of the Cofucian style construction.

Stone Monument of Basho’s Haku

Stone Monument of Basho’s Haku is located in the Myozu-shrine of Eiga-cho. There have been haku-living people since long ago. This stone monument was built by those people. It is a designated city historical site.
Something to go with your memories of Hashima

Renkon (Lotus Root) Cuisine
Hashima City’s specialty, Renkon (lotus root), accounts for approximately 60% of that which is produced within Gifu Prefecture. If you want to try lotus root, which is rich in minerals, you are able to sample “Renkon Katsu-Don” (Deep fried pork cutlet and lotus root served on a bowl of rice) or “Renkon-Udon” (Udon noodles with lotus root) at many restaurants within the city.

Narnazu (Carfish) Cuisine
The carfish caught in the Kiso, Nagara and Iza Rivers has been a favourite food of many people since long ago. The original flavour is still alive in Hashima and it’s considered Hashima’s specialty cuisine. Carfish (narnazu) has less fat than eel (unagi) so carfish cuisine is the perfect food for those diet conscious people looking to lead a healthy lifestyle.

Miso Dango
(Rice dumplings with a sweet bean paste centre grilled with miso sauce)
In Takehana-Cho, Hashima City, there is an unusual sweet rich in rustic charm known as Miso Dango. Every year on 30 June’s “Pure purification day” and during Dada Festival on 1 and 15 July, this is sold at sweet shops and rice-cake stores within Takehana-Cho. The rice flour dumplings mixed with red miso paste have a reputable yet simple bittersweet taste. It is a true symbol of a nostalgic summer in Takehana to stuff one mouthful of these rice dumplings while wearing yukata.

Hatsu Shimo (First Frost)
As the name suggests this rice, which keeps its delicious flavour throughout the year, is harvested around the time of the first frost of winter. Because it is only grown on the Mino plains production is limited so it is also known as “Phantom Hatsu Shimo”.

Hashima City’s local Sake “Hashima no Shizuku” (Hashima’s Drop)
This local sake of Hashima uses “Nihon Bare” rice cultivated in Kuwabara using non-chemical fertilizers and few agricultural chemicals. Incorporating the name “Hashima”, this sake was crowned “Hashima no Shizuku” (Hashima’s Drop). This sake is best enjoyed chilled.

Aigamo Family
This is an original brand of pure rice sake brewed from the finest rice cultivated using ducks to eradicate insects and organic agricultural products along with water from the city river-beds.

Accommodation Guide

Kanpo no Yado Gifu Hashima
Address: Takehana-Cho, Gifu City 507-1233
Telephone: 058-398-2631

Andiamo Partenza Hotel
Address: Takehana-Cho, Gifu City 507-1233
Telephone: 058-391-1000

Sun Hotel Gifu Hashima
Address: Takehana-Cho, Gifu City 507-1233
Telephone: 058-392-5000

Taxi Companies
Hashima Taxi
Tel Fno.0120-058831
Head Office branch
Tel.058-391-1401
Osu branch
Tel.058-398-8206

Gifu Koutai Taxi
Tel.058-398-1582
Hashima Branch
Tel.058-392-2570

Suto Taxi
Hashima Branch
Tel.058-391-5634

Hiro Maru Taxi
Takehana Branch
Tel.058-391-2006

Gifu Kintetsu Taxi
Hashima Station Branch
Tel.058-398-1433

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Original Sports Towel
With lovely character of Hashima City Tourism Association
Information: Hashima City Tourism Association
Telephone: 058-392-1111

Cell Phone Accessory